

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-10 (Canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) An aluminate phosphor comprising an aluminate represented by a general composition formula: $7(\text{Sr}_{1-x}\text{Eu}_x)\text{O.yAl}_2\text{O}_3$, wherein $0 < x \leq 0.5$ and $1 \leq y \leq 36$,
wherein

the aluminate phosphor emits blue light having a maximum peak wavelength at about 410 nm by ultraviolet excitation.

12. (Original) The aluminate phosphor according to claim 11, wherein $0.001 < x \leq 0.3$ and $3 \leq y \leq 27$ in the general composition formula.

13. (Currently Amended) The aluminate phosphor according to claim 12, wherein
[[y=12]] y = 6 in the general composition formula.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently Amended) A method for producing an aluminate phosphor,

wherein the aluminate phosphor comprises an aluminate represented by a general composition formula: $7(\text{Sr}_{1-x}\text{Eu}_x)\text{O.yAl}_2\text{O}_3$, wherein $0 < x \leq 0.5$ and $1 \leq y \leq 36$, and the aluminate phosphor emits blue light having a maximum peak wavelength at about 410 nm by ultraviolet excitation, comprising:

- (1) a step of producing a powder of organic metal chelate complexes including Sr, Eu and Al as metal components,
- (2) a step of firing the powder obtained in the step (1) to obtain a multi metal oxide,
- (3) a step of reducing the multi metal oxide obtained in the step (2) at about 1400°C.

17. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 16, wherein the step (1) comprises mixing the metals or compounds thereof and an organic chelating agent, and/or metal chelate complexes of the metals so as to be a predetermined metal composition; thereby forming a transparent aqueous solution of organic metal chelate complexes; and spray-drying the aqueous solution to obtain a powder.

18. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 17, wherein an aminocarboxylic acid-based chelating agent and/or salt thereof is used as the organic chelating agent.

19. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 17, wherein a complex consisting of an aminocarboxylic acid-based chelating agent and a metal ion, and/or salt thereof is used as the metal chelate complex.

20. (Canceled)

21. (Canceled)

22. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 16, wherein the reducing treatment is carried out in an argon and hydrogen atmosphere or in a nitrogen and hydrogen atmosphere in the step (3).

23. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 17, wherein the reducing treatment is carried out in an argon and hydrogen atmosphere or in a nitrogen and hydrogen atmosphere in the step (3).

24. (New) The aluminate phosphor according to claim 11, wherein the aluminate phosphor emits blue light having a maximum peak wave length at 406-413 nm by ultraviolet excitation.